Inter-linking of rivers

†2411. SHRI LAXMI NARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for adopting lackadaisical attitude for completing programme of interlinking of Indian rivers;

(b) the reaction of Government on analysis of such programme in the book published by Lotus publication submitted to the Ministry;

(c) whether Government would make changes in such a programme as per the new analysis; and

(d) if so, the details of such a programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) National Water Development Agency (NWDA) under the Ministry of Water Resources has completed feasibility reports (FRs) of 16 links out of 30 links identified for preparation of FRs. NWDA has also taken up the works for preparation of the Detailed Project Report of one link namely, Ken-Betwa link under Peninsular Component. The completion of Interlinking of river programme depends upon the consensus and cooperation of the concerned States and agreement with Government of Nepal and Bhutan. Therefore, there is no lackadaisical attitude for completing the programme.

(b) to (d) A copy of the book written by Shri Radha Kant Bharti and published by Lotus Press was sent to Hon'ble Minister (WR) on 23.2.2006 by Shri Ratnakar Pandey, Ex-Member of Parliament for release of the book. Hon'ble Minister (WR) did not agree for the same.

Task force for flood management and erosion control

2412. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the task force for flood management and erosion control constituted by the Ministry in 2004 has recommended that in highly flood-prone areas, flood control should be given overriding consideration

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.